

Minutes
Committee on Equal Opportunities
Council on Postsecondary Education
October 14, 2010

The Committee on Equal Opportunities met October 14, 2010, at the Kentucky International Convention Center, in conjunction with the Kentucky Commission on Human Rights 50th Anniversary Conference. Chair Joseph S. Weis presided.

Roll Call Members present: Jerome Bowles, Raoul Cunningham, Dennis Jackson, John Johnson, Lisa Osborne, Aaron Price, Wendell Thomas, Joseph Weis, David Welch, and Abraham Williams.

Representative Carl Rollins did not attend.

Approval of Minutes The minutes of the August 23, 2010 meeting, were discussed, and several recommendations were made to amend the minutes, prior to approval.

MOTION: Mr. Abraham Williams moved to accept the minutes, as amended. Mr. Wendell Thomas seconded the motion.

Mr. David Welch suggested adding comments made by President Sias of Kentucky State University and President Andrews of Morehead State University, in addition to substituting a transposed word (accept for except), and including the last names of speakers.

VOTE: The motion passed.

Kentucky Fairness Alliance Presentation of Community Service Award Mr. Jody Cofer, representing the Kentucky Fairness Alliance, recognized the work of the Committee on Equal Opportunities and presented the Community Service Award.

CPE Chair Paul Patton accepted the award on behalf of the CEO and CPE and thanked the Alliance for the recognition. The award recognized the CEO for expanding the scope of their work in the area of diversity to ensure that education across the Commonwealth is more inclusive and accessible to all Kentuckians. Also, Chair Patton offered greetings to CEO members and meeting attendees. Mr. David Welch expressed appreciation for the recognition by the Alliance.

Action:
2011 CEO
Meeting Calendar

RECOMMENDATION: The Council staff recommends that the CEO approve the 2011 meeting calendar: January 24, March 28, May 16, and October 17. Other meetings are to be established as needed.

MOTION: Mr. Aaron Price moved to adopt the meeting calendar. Mr. Abraham Williams seconded the motion.

VOTE: The motion passed.

Following this item the Committee recessed to attend a session of the Kentucky Commission on Human Rights 50th Anniversary meeting to hear comments by the Secretary of the U. S. Department of Housing. The meeting reconvened to complete its business following the speech.

Revision of Kentucky
Administrative
Regulation
13 KAR 2:060

Mr. Sherron Jackson introduced this item and stated that when the revision of the Kentucky Administrative Regulation 13 KAR 2:060 is finalized it will replace the existing administrative regulation. The draft document was shared with institutional presidents, institutional legal counsels, chief diversity officers, and EEO representatives. The document will undergo additional changes and revisions and will be shared again as feedback is received.

Members of the CEO raised questions and offered suggestions to help clarify the KAR. The KAR should more clearly specify for universities and community and technical colleges the areas for which goals are required; identify the objectives to be measured for purposes of KRS 164.020(19) and the metrics to be used; identify the assessment required for general reporting under the policy; and ensure that the diversity policy is incorporated into the CPE Statewide Strategic Agenda. The primary areas of focus are student enrollment, student success, achievement gaps, workforce, and campus environment. The area encompassing campus environment does not require goals. Mr. Jackson responded that the suggestions would be incorporated in the KAR.

It was also disclosed that Council staff was aware that some institutions had voiced concerns regarding whether the policy adopted by CPE and the draft administrative regulation could pass constitutional scrutiny. If the concerns were realized, CPE would address the concerns, make any modifications required, and submit the revised regulation to the CEO for review and action.

At this point, the draft is a work in progress and staff anticipates additional changes as comments are received.

Institutional Campus
Environment Team
Reports

Dr. Rana Johnson introduced this item and stated that the 2009 reports of the CETs reflected diverse representation from across the eight universities and 16 KCTCS institutions. Six presidents participated in some capacity, while students were represented at each university, as well as three of the KCTCS institutions. The reports did not change from the previous year with the exception of two universities: Morehead State and Murray State.

- Morehead revised and expanded their goals and objectives.
- Murray established a permanent and standing governance body housed in the Office of the President.
- Morehead implemented two new programs to measure the effectiveness of the CET: Eagle Ally and DREAMS, and indicated that African American student retention improved from 50 to 55 percent.
- Murray's CET began their work with a dialogue regarding diversity to address the needs of specified groups.

Each university advertised and scheduled regular CET meetings, while meetings at KCTCS varied between 1 and 12 meetings a year. One institution (NKU) indicated that they underwent a year of transition and did not meet for a period of time. All institutions indicated that recommendations were made by their CETs and had been shared with the president, Boards of Regents, and Boards of Trustees.

GMSCPP 2009-10
Annual Report

Dr. Rana Johnson introduced the Annual Report of the Governor's Minority Student College Preparation Program. Participants of the 2009-10 GMSCPP include 1,418 middle and junior high school students: 1,136 students (80 percent) enrolled in the seven university programs, while 282 students (20 percent) enrolled in the KCTCS programs. In comparison, 1,025 students participated in the 2008-09 programs: 771 at the university program level and 254 at KCTCS. The number of participants has remained steady over the past four years.

Students participate in pre and post testing to learn about, as well as address, any academic challenges they may have prior to transitioning to high school and the postsecondary education system. Additionally, program directors introduce students to academic enrichment activities, including STEM, reading, writing, study skills and ACT prep tests.

Overall, the GMSCPP has been invaluable in serving African American and other minority students across the state.

Status: Kentucky
Plan Support
Programs

Dr. Rana Johnson reported that some of the equal opportunity pass through programs were funded with nonrecurring fund sources which are no longer available. Programs at two universities and 14 KCTCS institutions will no longer receive funds to operate the GMSCPP after their fund balances have been exhausted.

Seven students will be supported this fall in the SREB Doctoral Scholars Program; the Commonwealth, in collaboration with the University of Kentucky and University of Louisville, will provide funding for the students. Students will participate in the SREB Institute on Teaching and Mentoring October 28-31, 2010, in Tampa, Florida. Kentucky's public institutions have also been invited to participate in the institute career fair to assist them in increasing the number of minority faculty at their respective campuses.

Similar to the GMSCPP, the SREB Doctoral Scholars Program has been funded with a combination of General Funds and nonrecurring funds. Nonrecurring funds were removed from the CPE budget and General Funds were reduced by 1.5 percent. Unless funding is identified, or the universities assume responsibility for the students, support for the scholars will not be available after June 30, 2011.

Members of the CEO raised concerns regarding cuts to the GMSCPP, as well as the SREB Doctoral Scholars Program. The committee indicated that they would discuss the concern regarding funding for pass-through programs with CEO member Representative Carl Rollins.

Waivers
for New Degree
Programs Granted
in Calendar Year
2010

Dr. Rana Johnson stated that in 2010 no institution implemented any new academic programs under the waiver provisions of KRS 164.020(19).

Reports and
Comments by
Institutions

Sandra Moore, Eastern Kentucky University, informed the committee that ECU would host a joint CPE/EKU Diversity Summit in November. Details are forthcoming.

Natalie Gibson, Kentucky Community and Technical College System, highlighted a KCTCS program that will focus on the enrollment of African American/minority students in the Commonwealth. The program is scheduled to take place Monday, February 14, 2011.

Other Business and
News Articles of
Interest

There was no other business.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held Monday, January 24, 2011, in Frankfort, Kentucky.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 12:10 p.m.